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GBSC THEME

"To Convince the Unconvinced to be Convinced...through Education, Missions and Fellowship,"

Matthew 28:19-20

Parker Seeks Presidency Candidate Announcement

The Rev. Dr. Howard W. Parker, Jr., Pastor of the Sycamore Hill Missionary Baptist Church in Greenville, N.C., has announced his candidacy for the office of president of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina. Parker began serving the Convention during the presidency of Dr. E.B. Turner as Exhibit Chairman and was elected Fourth Vice President of the Convention during the presidency of Dr. Clifford A. Jones.



Dr. Parker is a native of Winston-Salem, N.C. where he grew up in the Mt. Zion Baptist Church under the pastorate of Dr. K.O.P. Goodwin and was ordained by the Rowan Baptist Association. He is a product of Shaw

University where he majored in Religion; Winston-Salem State University where he majored in History and minored in Political Science; studied at Babcock Graduate School of Management, Wake Forest University and the United Christian College.

Rev. Parker states that he is committed to missions at home and the foreign field. He is committed to supporting churches with resources and/or individuals to further their Christian Educational needs through Workshops, Training Sessions and Worship Experiences. He plans to create an Annual Summit for Moderators to sit down with him and the Vice Presidents to discuss the issues and concerns of churches in their location as a means of discovering methods to correct or solve problems or concerns in a given location. He will work towards an Annual time when the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina and the Baptist State Convention can jointly co-sponsor a Race Relations Sunday across the State. He will also make an effort to contact churches that have not represented in the Convention over the last three years. After identifying needs, he will work towards asking Pastors who have contractors, builders, plumbers, etc., who are members of Missionary Baptist churches across the state, to volunteer at least one-week during the year when they would work at the J.J. Johnson Baptist Assembly site, to enhance the development of the camp for year round use.

Dr. Parker is married to the former R. LaVerna Grantham of Goldsboro and they have two adult children, Kelly Madison and Andrea Rochelle.

Chase Seeks Presidency Candidate Announcement

The Rev. Percy Raymond Chase was born in Washington, DC to the late Dr. Lendall W. Chase, Sr. and Elnora Elizabeth Ellis Chase.

Rev. Chase received his education in the public schools of Danville, Virginia, Norfolk State University, Norfolk, Virginia—Business Administration (1976), Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Wake Forest, North Carolina—Master of Divinity (1980). Rev. Chase was conferred by the Apex School of Theology the Doctor of Divinity (1998).

In 1974, Rev. Chase accepted the Lord's Call to "preach the Gospel" of Christ. Rev. Chase became the pastor of the Community Baptist Church, Durham, North Carolina April 1978 and has served as pastor for thirty-two years.



Service in the Lord's vineyard includes, General Board (1982-2006), Executive Committee (Assistant & Secretary, 1992-2002), Resolutions Committee, and Headquarters Staff Worker (1990-2005) all of the General Baptist State Convention, NC, Inc. Moderator, New Hope Association (1995-1999), President, IMA of Durham and Vicinity (1994-1996), Executive Board of the Recovering Women Services, Durham, NC, Member—NAACP, has served as Instructor of the Young Peoples Leadership Course of the National Baptist Congress on Christian Education, National Baptist Convention USA, Inc.

Rev. Chase also serves as the National Director of the National Baptist Student Union Retreat, a Campus Ministry for students attending Historically Black Colleges and Universities (1996-Present).

The Campaign and Vision

Integrity—Upholding Baptist Doctrine (Preamble to our Constitution)

Has our vision been "blurred" by the electronic Church and our polity and practice of the Faith we hold been derailed? We must remind ourselves that we are still Baptist. We are not called to devour the sheep of

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Their Announcemnet

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Johnson, Past Informer
Editor Writes Book

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Burrell seeks
Assistant Recording
Secretary seat

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Poverty Rate Among
African Americans
Nearly Double that of
Whites

Our 143rd Year

Voice of 500,000 North Carolina Baptists

1867 - 2010

Chase, continued from Page 1

Christ, but to lead and be an example of Christ in us the hope of glory.

Partnership—Support for Auxiliary Work
(Article IV, Section 8)

To promote their work and the mission of the Convention, our auxiliaries need expansion in their session time and place. They are each unique in ministry and purpose for our Baptist Churches and the Convention. They should have their own time. An organized scheduling of their sessions throughout the state gives the Convention and the churches wider access to the needs of the churches and what the Convention has to provide.

Preparedness—

Adequate Headquarters Staff
(Articles V, Section 6)

The Convention's mission and work requires adequate and effective staff. State Missions must be defined with the understanding that Headquarters Costs and Program Costs need equal attention.

Stewardship—Managing Mission and Work
(Articles III and IV)

It has been said "the convention has nothing to offer the churches"—Our constitution says something else. With 22 Auxiliaries, Boards, Departments, Committees and Commissions, the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc. has and can still answer the "call" by these words 'Here am I, send Me.

Goals for the Tenure

A book each year on Baptist Work to be studied

and put to use in speaking to the needs of our Baptist Churches. Organized through the Associations and the Congress on Christian Education Auxiliary.

The development of a Rural Pastor's Department in the Convention for our Baptist Churches. Its work will embrace those needs specific of the Rural Pastor.

The establishment of an organized Pulpit Assistance Program for our Baptist Churches and Ministers. This effort will make available the "opportunity" for Ministers to serve our Baptist Churches and to help reduce vacancies in pulpits within our State.

That GBSC, NC, Inc. with the Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention appoint 100 students from HBCUs in North Carolina to promote Baptist work among students in local Baptist Churches.

The organization of a crime prevention task force with associational and state support through Law enforcement and the Laymen's League.

Each Vice-President organize their department according to the constitution that adequate effort can be made to secure financial support for that department.

To develop methods in Evangelism for the local church.

Banks seeks 2nd Vice-President seat Candidate Announcement

Dr. Ricky L. Banks announces his candidacy for the office of 2nd Vice President of The General



Dr. Ricky L. Banks

Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc. I am now serving my final year as 3rd Vice President to this great Convention. I have previously served the offices of 4th Vice President, Recording Secretary, and Secretary to the Executive Committee. Since March 1982, I have served as pastor of The St. Stephen Missionary Baptist Church, Elizabeth City, North Carolina. Locally, I've served as Moderator of The Roanoke Missionary Baptist Association, Elizabeth City, NC and President of the Ministerial Alliance. Currently, I serve as Vice Chairman of The Elizabeth City State University Foundation and member of the Martin Luther King, Jr. State Commission. I am married to the former Shelva Watson and father of two adult daughters. With the grace of God and your help I look forward to moving our Convention from "Strength To Strength"

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Avery seeks Vice-President-at-Large seat Candidate Announcement

To all my brothers and sisters in the General Baptist "tie" that binds our hearts in Christian love: "Grace to all who love our Lord Jesus



**Rev. Dr. Nilous
M. Avery, II**

Christ with an undying love" (Ephesians 6:24, NIV). As a servant of Christ Jesus by the will of God, I humbly and prayerfully announce that I am a candidate for the office of Vice-President-at-Large of the General Baptist State Convention of N.C., Inc. I come

before you as one who is the least among you

and do not even deserve to be all that I am. "But by the grace of God, I am what I am ..." (1 Corinthians 15:10a).

Words are inadequate to express the profound love I cherish for the relationship, fellowship, friendship, and kinship I share with each of

you in Jesus the Christ. You have allowed the mantle of ministry and leadership to be placed upon me through the years with deep and sincere trust. I have sought to be faithful in all this. By the power presence, and provision of God's abundant grace, I pledge to continue to uphold the charge to keep I have under the bloodstained banner of the crucified and resurrected Jesus the Christ.

I am honored and blessed of God to serve as the seventh Pastor of the historic Mount Zion Missionary Baptist Church of Salisbury, Inc. This blessed vineyard has produced a fruitful ministry that has spanned eighteen (18) years. Our stewardship there serves as home base for active participation on numerous local, regional, national, and international religious and civic boards and foundations.

As a lifelong member of the General Baptist State Convention, I have been blessed by God to serve in numerous areas of ministry of our great convention including the Program Committee, Evangelism Committee, Executive Committee, General Board, 4th Vice-President,

2nd Vice-President, and currently 1st Vice-President.

As your Vice-President-at-Large, I will "preside over the deliberations on the Convention in the absence of the President, or at the request of the President," and will "assist the President in the carrying out of the work of the Convention and shall preside over the General Board" (Article V, Section 6, Item #2, Constitution of the General Baptist State Convention of N.C., Inc.).

May the Spirit of the Lord fall fresh on us as we strive to be all God created us to be. Pray for all our officers, auxiliaries, and candidates in the upcoming elections.

I issue a call and prayerful challenge to my Christian brothers and sisters who have declared or may declare their candidacies in the Convention: "Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith, be (people) of courage; be strong. Do everything in love" (1 Corinthians 16:13-14, NW). "The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit. Amen." (Philippians 4:23, NW).

Lynch seeks 1st Vice President seat Candidate Announcement

Dr. Leonzo D. Lynch is the 5th generation of the ministers in his family. He accepted the call into the ministry in 1981 and delivered his



Dr. Leonzo D. Lynch

initial sermon on Palm Sunday of that year. Since 1984, he has been in active service unto God as a Pastor. This ministry has

taken him to four congregations in North Carolina: the Winn Chapel Baptist Church of Mt. Olive, NC; the Rock Spring Baptist Church of Creedmoor, NC; the Mt. Level Baptist Church of Durham, NC; - one congregation in South Carolina; the Long Branch Baptist Church of Greenville SC; and his current position (since 1997) at the Ebenezer Baptist Church of Charlotte, NC. He is the youngest son of Rev. Dr. and Mrs. Lorenzo A. Lynch, Sr., of Durham, NC.

Dr. Lynch received his Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro (May 1984), his Master of Divinity degree from Duke University Divinity School (May 1987), and his Doctor of Ministry degree from United Theological Seminary (May 1997).

He has been very active in denominational work on the local, state, and national levels. A former member of the Durham Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance, where he served as Chairman of the Program Committee, and Secretary. A former member of the East Cedar Grove Association, having served as Chairman of the Executive Board and Secretary of the Ordination Council. A former member of the Baptist E. & M. Convention of South Carolina, where he served as Instructor in the State Congress.

He is the former Third Vice-Moderator & Dean of the Institute of the Mecklenburg General Baptist Association, a member of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, where he is currently Second Vice President, the former Third Vice - President, a member of the Executive Board, the General Board, the Evangelism Committee, and Past President of the Ministers' Council. He is a member of the National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc., and a former Instructor in the NBC, USA, Inc., Congress of Christian Education for 16 years.

Continued on next page

Terry seeks 3rd Vice President seat Candidate Announcement



**Rev. Dr. J. Vincent
Terry, Sr.**

Please let this letter serve as my official notice of my candidacy for 3rd Vice President of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc.

Serving the last four (4) years with you, President Moss, and the Vice Presidents of GBSCNC, has been a wonderful experience.

Until He Comes, I Am,
Rev. Dr. J. Vincent Terry, Sr.,
Pastor, Mt. Peace Baptist Church
Raleigh, NC

Dr. Lynch is the founder and former Chairman of the Greenville SC Ministers' Institute. He is the founder and former Chairman of the Queen City Ministers' Institute, of Charlotte, N.C., an institute for pastors and ministers seeking to develop their ministries.

Dr. Lynch has dedicated his life to the

proclamation of the gospel. He has preached across this nation. He seeks to live a life of service to humankind. Please continue to pray that God will continue to bless his ministry.

Lowe seeks 4th Vice President seat Candidate Announcement

"Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I. Send me!" Is. 6:8

Dr. Paul A. Lowe, Jr., seeks to be the next fourth vice president of the General Baptist State Convention. The pastor of Shiloh Baptist Church of



Winston-Salem, his qualifications include the following: 20 plus years of Pastoral experience; past moderator of the Rowan Baptist Association; board member, General Baptist State Convention; lecturer, National Baptist Congress of Christian Education USA, Inc.; former writer for the Sunday School Publishing Board of the National Baptist Convention USA, Inc. (Nurture for Baptists: A Youth Bible Study Series).

Lowe is a graduate of Drew University, Presbyterian School of Christian Education, Virginia Union University and Bishop College. His ministering abroad include visits to the Bahamas, Europe, Korea, United Kingdom, West Africa and South Africa. In terms of civic involvement, he has served the Public Facilities Commission of the City of Winston-Salem, N.C.; been a delegate to the Democratic National Convention 2008, representing the state of North Carolina, and is a board member of the Piedmont Triad Opera (Special Committee on Youth Education & Cultural Awareness).

Wright seeks 4th Vice President seat Candidate Announcement



I am expressing my interest in the office of 4th Vice President of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc.

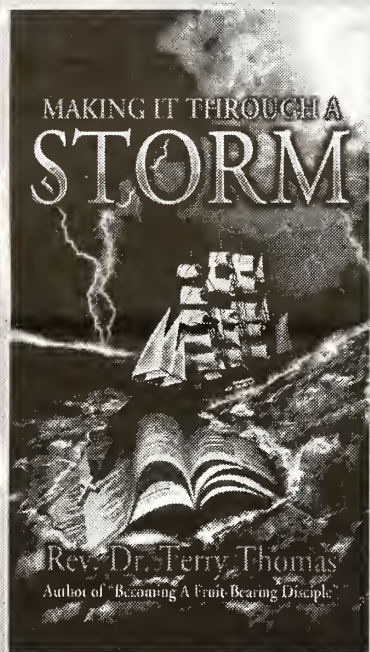
"Ready"

"Therefore said he unto them, The harvest truly is great, but the labourers are few: pray ye therefore he LORD of the harvest, that he would send forth labourers into his harvest." Luke 10:2

Continued on next page

Making it Through a Storm

Rev. Dr. Terry Thomas



About the Book

All people, at some point time in their lives, will face the trying circumstances traditionally characterized as a storm. Since we know that storms are one of life's certainties, we should prepare to deal with by equipping ourselves with the necessary knowledge and skills.

Therefore, to know the things to do to make it through a storm, the book, *Making It Through A Storm*, is a book you will want to read. It takes a look at what a group of people, making it through a storm in the 27th chapter of Acts, did to learn the fundamental principles to embrace in order to make it through a storm. This book is comprised of fourteen chapters which contains some insightful things that will help you make it through a storm in a manner that will strengthen and enhance your life.

About the Author

Dr. Terry Thomas is the pastor of the West Durham Baptist Church, Durham, North Carolina. He is the author of the books "Becoming a Fruit-Bearing Disciple" and "Let Us Pray." He serves as a mentor in the Doctor of Ministry Program at United Theological Seminary, Dayton, Ohio whose focus is Leadership and Preaching in the African-American Church; and as the Director of the Apex School of Theology Doctor of Ministry Program., Durham, North Carolina. He is the former editor of the Baptist Informer of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina. He has earned a B.S in Math/Computer Science from Tuskegee University, a Master of Divinity at Shaw University, and a Doctor of Ministry at Virginia Union School of Theology.



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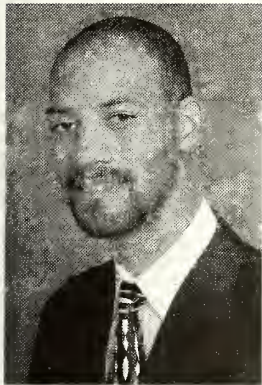
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Sykes seeks 4th Vice President seat Candidate Announcement

Greetings in the Rich Name of Jesus:

My name is Rev. O. D. Sykes. I am the youngest of four born to Deacon Paul C. Sykes and Deaconess Bessie M. Sykes of Garysburg, N.C. I am happily married to the former Kristy D. Davis and we are the parents of one daughter, Briana. I am a graduate of Saint Paul's College of Lawrenceville, V.A. I have also continued my educational studies at Shaw University Divinity School of Raleigh, N.C.



Rev. O.D. Sykes

I made Jesus Christ my choice, was baptized and received into the fellowship of the Oak Grove Missionary Baptist Church of Garysburg, NC by the late Rev. George A. Smith at the age of ten. I faithfully served as Usher President, Choir Member, Pastor Aide President, Sunday School Secretary, and Church Treasurer. My initial sermon was preached at Oak Grove Missionary Baptist Church under the pastorate of the Rev. J. L.

Battle. I was ordained by the Neuse River Missionary Baptist Association.

The Lord has blessed me to serve as Pastor of two congregations, the Swift Creek Missionary Baptist Church of Whitakers, NC and the Springfield Missionary Baptist Church of Littleton, NC.

Beginning in 2003, I served as a Camp Counselor at the J.J. Johnson Baptist Assembly. In 2006 I became a member of the General Board for the General Baptist State Convention.

Presently, I serve in the Neuse River Missionary Baptist Association as 2nd Vice Moderator, Executive Board member and former assistant recording secretary. I am also a member of the Reedy Creek Missionary Baptist Association, Tar River Union, Roanoke River Union and Nash County Missionary Union.

I understand the constitutional responsibilities of this office and will work hard through GBSC, Associations, and the two Churches I serve as Pastor: to continue supporting the Central Children's Home and our Collective Ministry and Mission Objectives. It will surely, indeed be my privilege to serve as the 4th Vice President of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina.

Let us continue to worship our God in Spirit and in Truth.

Wright, continued from page 4

- GBSC Recording Secretary
- Associate Minister, Mt. Peace Baptist Church
- Director of Church Relations, GBSC Adoption & Foster Care Ministry
- Professor of Biblical Studies, GBSC Congress of Christian Education
- GBSC Evangelism Ministry & Ministers Council
- Program Manager, Shaw University Divinity School
- 2000 & 2008 Conference Preacher, Shaw University Divinity School Ministers Conference
- Biblical Studies Professor, Apex School of Theology, Henderson Site

For the Cause of Christ,
Rev. Anthonette Wright



Ferguson seeks Historian seat Candidate Announcement

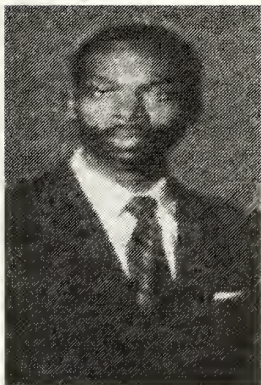
To whom it may concern:

Peace and grace be unto you from God, Our Father; God, The Son; and God, the Holy Ghost. This (letter) is to inform the election committee and nomination committee of my desire to run for the office of Historian.

In the Name of Christ,
Rev. Darrell K. Ferguson

Camps seeks Recording Secretary seat Candidate Announcement

Rev. David C. Camps, Sr., is a native of Queens, New York. He is the son of the late David Caldwell, Jr. and Ann Camps. The Reverend Camps accepted the Lord as his personal Savior on the second Sunday in July 1975 at the First Baptist Church of East Elmhurst, New York under the leadership of the late Rev. Theodore R. Lee, Jr. The first Sunday in August of the same year at 10:30



Rev. David C.
Camps Sr.

a.m., Reverend Camps was baptized.

Rev. Camps was licensed to preach the Gospel by the Lewis Chapel Missionary Baptist Church in Fayetteville, N.C. under the direction and guidance of his spiritual father, Pastor Dr. John D. Fuller, Sr.

He currently resides in Fayetteville, and is married to his college sweetheart, Theresa Nevell Camps. He is the proud father of three children: David Christopher Jr. (Morehouse College Graduate), Christina DeAnne (NC A&T University Graduate, currently enrolled at Morgan State University in a masters program), and Daniel Christian (Junior at Jack Britt High School).

Pastor Camps received his elementary education through High school in the New York City public school system, graduating from John Bowne High School. Following high school graduation, he continued his formal education at Bowie State University, Bowie, M.D., and received his bachelor of science degree. Pastor Camps also holds a master of science degree

from George Mason University, Fairfax, Virginia and is currently pursuing his doctorate of theology at Andersonville Theological Seminary.

Rev. Camps retired from the military in August 2006 at the rank of Lieutenant Colonel after over 22 years, 11 months of service; he currently works at Fayetteville State University as Director of Sponsored Research & Programs. External Grants and Contracts of the University increased from \$7 million to \$14 million since his arrival.

God called Rev. Camps to pastor his first church, Pleasant Hill Missionary Baptist Church in Clarkton, N.C. He was also called to the pastorate of the Baldwin Branch Missionary Baptist Church and assumed his duties as the 15th Pastor. For a period of one year, Rev. Camps was the pastor for both churches and conducted two respective services each Sunday.

As the pastor of Baldwin Branch, the spirit

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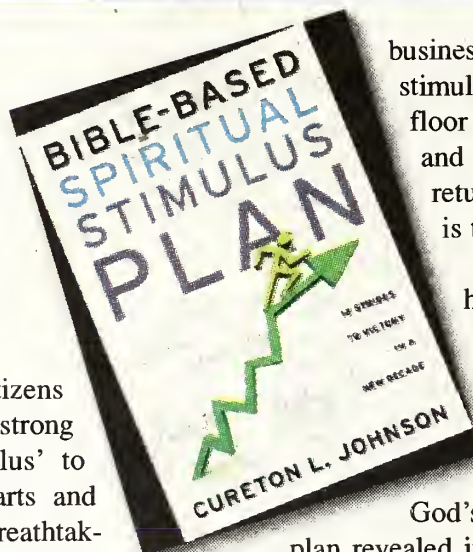
Johnson, Past Informer Editor Writes Book From Press Release

God's Stimulus Plan

Enumclaw, WA—"Many U.S. citizens urgently need a strong 'spiritual stimulus' to revive their hearts and minds in this breathtaking post-Great Recession decade of change," said the author of the newly released book entitled Bible-Based Spiritual Stimulus Plan.



The term stimulus plan has become part of our American vocabulary, along with bailout and economic downturn. According to The New York Times "An economic stimulus is an effort by the government to pump money into an ailing economy, whether through spending, tax cuts or interest rate reductions. By replacing money not being spent by



businesses or consumers, a stimulus is meant to put a floor under a recession and pave the way for a return to growth."* But is this all we need?

"Many people have argued about the effectiveness of recent economic stimuli while too many Americans have overlooked

God's spiritual stimulus plan revealed in Scripture," writes

Dr. Cureton Lee Johnson in his new book Bible-Based Spiritual Stimulus Plan. He writes of a divine stimulus plan designed by our Creator for our enrichment and hope. According to his book, "It has successfully withstood the test of time. The Plan emboldens God's people to change the world by sharing the great light of God's eternal wisdom . . ." Johnson believes that if America is to survive its self-destructive tendencies, it will require the power of the church—a power that can only come through God as He outlined in the Bible.

Written to the weary American Christian besieged by negative national news and gloomy

world outlooks, Johnson's book presents twelve positive biblical stimuli that include necessities of our faith, and lesser-known but essential qualities that work.

The son and grandson of pastors who grew up in the segregated south, Johnson followed his parents' example and pursued full-time ministry, which has included trips to Africa and pioneering religious education services on HIV/AIDS in North Carolina. He has transformed the First Missionary Baptist Church of Fayetteville NC into a mission outpost to help those in the church and around the world. Now he hopes to help members of the American church stimulate our nation in ways that can truly make a difference. According to one newspaper columnist, Dr. Johnson's book is "chock full of practical challenges and faith-enhancing applications;...it is certain to be kept at the bedside table with a pencil close by for jotting down notes in the margins."

To purchase a copy of this book visit www.winepressbooks.com or call 877-421-7323.

*Quote found under Topics on www.nytimes.com, "Economic Stimulus," The New York Times, March 18, 2010.

From the Desk of the First Vice-President

"To all in (the General Baptist Family) who are loved by God and called to be saints: Grace and peace to you from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ" (Romans 1:7, NIV). As we press on to our Annual Session gathering in Charlotte, NC beginning October 25th, I continually pause to thank God for all of you, "because your faith is being reported all over the world" (Romans 1:8b). My tenure as your First Vice-President winds down with a heart full of gratitude and a mind that is made up to go on in the Lord.



Rev. Dr. Nilous
M. Avery, II

Vice-President-at-large of this great body, by the grace and will of God. This convention stands on the threshold of abundant blessings through

the power of God. Our mountaintop view of Promised Land possessions must not result in a stagnant spirituality. God has promised empowerment for those who are faithful. General Baptists, we can experience the power that is ours in Christ Jesus.

Power is a word that is used often in our world. We are familiar with "power plays" and "power dunks" in athletics. We eat "power bars" for energy while on the go. We install power locks, power brakes, power windows, etc. in our automobiles. We use "power points" in professional presentations. Our churches apply the word power to add punch to our ecclesiastical gatherings.

How does the word power apply to our spiritual lives? In the New Testament, there are two forms of the word power:

- **Dunamis:** the ability, the force, the energy to do or act. It literally means powered by power, transforming power. The focus of this word is the transformation {change} that comes in order to glow, grow, and go when this power is present! (see Acts 1:8)

- **Kratos:** the power that is able to overcome resistance (see Hebrews 2:14). This also refers to overcoming the power of death. This word indicates that God's glorious might is

needed for growth as a result of the many challenges that confront our spiritual advancement.

In others words, Jesus the Christ's power must become tangible and visible in our lives in order to glow, grow, and go in the will & work of God!

God provides us with Power to Know (Ephesians 1:17-20; 3:18-19), Power to Walk (Colossians 1:11), and Power to Serve (2 Thessalonians 1:11). We are called to be fruit-bearers of God through Jesus Christ. True fruit-bearers possess inward divine power that transforms lives and overcomes obstacles to ministry.

Our opportunity to be witnesses of God's transforming power is available through our convention's objectives, which includes the Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention. Your constant prayers and financial support are tangible proof that God's power transforms lives and overcomes obstacles. My beloved General Baptist family, we are in position to impact our world like never before. Accept the challenge today.

I look forward to seeing you in October. The grace of our Lord Jesus be with you all. Amen.



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FORMER PRESIDENTS Endorsement and Support of

Dr. Howard W. Parker For President

We, the Former Presidents of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Incorporated, endorse and support Dr. Howard W. Parker, who now serves as Vice President at large, for President of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Incorporated.

Dr. Charles Bullock

Dr. C. R. Edwards

Dr. John D. Fuller, Sr.

Dr. Clifford Jones, Sr.

Dr. John R. Manley

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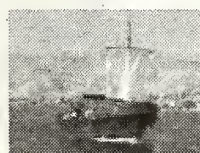
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Dr. Rudolph Tripp Announces A Holy Land Pilgrimage – Return from Relapse

Divinity School Students may receive 3 elective hour credits for this pilgrimage
Continue Education Units may also be received

Raleigh, North Carolina – September, 2010 – Dr. Rudolph Tripp is planning to take a group on a pilgrimage to the State of Israel from February 14 - 22, 2011, with members of the national community invited to take part.

The tour will depart from Newark International Airport on the evening of February 14, 2011 and land in Tel-Aviv on February 15, 2011. Major sites along the tour will include the Sea of Galilee, the Jordan River (with the opportunity for baptism), the Dead Sea, Capernaum, Nazareth, Bethlehem, Jericho, Jerusalem and more. In Jerusalem, those on the tour will follow in the footsteps of Jesus as they visit multiple sites, such as the Mount of Olives, Western Wall, Via Dolorosa, the Home of Caiaphas, Hill of the Skull, the Garden of Gethsemane and the Garden Tomb.

"Going to Israel has been a blessing to me, and I'm excited to be leading this tour and going with seminarians, family and friends so that they too may be blessed by the experience," Dr. Tripp said. "I truly believe that every person on this trip will be forever transformed and that we'll never be the same after going to the Holy Land. It is time for a return from relapse and there is no better place to be than in the land where it all began and where it will all end."

The cost of the tour for individuals will include non-stop airfare from Newark, NJ, deluxe hotel accommodations, breakfast and dinner daily, ground transportation, and admission fees to various museums and sites. The total cost of the pilgrimage is \$2450.00, plus \$150.00 for tips (for driver, guide, bellboys and maids). Interested persons must show their commitment by providing an initial deposit of \$250.00 (non-refundable) by October 15, 2010, with final payments due no later than December 31, 2010. Pay-

ments should be made payable by check or money order to Dr. Rudolph Tripp. Hurry and secure your space as they are being filled quickly!

The tour schedule will also include visiting the mountain fortress of Masada, floating on the Dead Sea, enjoying a traditional St. Peter's fish lunch, and seeing the caves at Qumran, where the Dead Sea Scrolls were first discovered in 1947. Time will also be scheduled for Bible-based devotionals, praise and worship, and sermonettes at select sites, as well as for leisure activities.

Anyone interested in joining the tour can contact Dr. Rudolph Tripp @ drtripp@nc.rr.com (919-302-3592), Rev. Belinda Wisdom @ bwisdom04@yahoo.com (919-931-9395) or Rev. Michelle Outlaw @ michelleroutlaw@yahoo.com (913-269-2861). Because space is limited, please inform us with your response and deposit as soon as possible.

For more information, contact Dr. Rudolph Tripp, Director, Continuing Education Program
Shaw University Divinity School
Phone: 919-546-8575 • Email: drtripp@nc.rr.com

of God moved immediately under his leadership. Early morning worship service (8:30) 2nd and 4th Sunday, Christian Education ministry, Mass Choir, Laymen League Ministry (Royal Ambassadors Youth), Women's ministry, 125% Church Budget Increase, 60% church member-

ship increase, "Keeping it Real" night (youth), Health and Wellness ministry, Young Adult conference, Sports Ministry (basketball, softball), Willing Workers, Church library, Church bookstore ministry, and Media and Radio ministries just to name a few. Baldwin Branch held its

groundbreaking ceremony in October 2005 for a new sanctuary, and September 2006 we marched into our new 500 seat sanctuary and office suites.

Burrell seeks Assistant Recording Secretary seat

Candidate Announcement



Rev. Quientrell L. Burrell, Jr. is the eldest of two sons born to Mrs. Brenda Burrell and the late Quientrell L. Burrell, Sr. though a native North Carolinian; he was reared in Hempstead, N.Y., and was a member of

Antioch Baptist Church under the pastorate of his grandfather the late Dr. James L.L. Burrell. During his child-

hood at Antioch, God blessed him with the gift of music and the ability to play the piano at 5 years old and later became Minister of Music. He served faithfully in that ministry and led the music ministry in their first live recording in October of 2000.

Rev. Burrell accepted the call to the gospel ministry at twenty years of age and was licensed by the Antioch Baptist Church under the leadership of Dr. Phillip E. Elliott, Pastor. He is a graduate of Long Island University with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Communications and Broadcasting. He is also a 2007 Graduate of the Shaw University Divinity School, attaining the Masters of Divinity. In the fall he will be entering a doctoral program to further equip himself to serve the present age, and rightly divide the word of truth.

In November of 2001, a call was extended from the First Baptist Church of Weldon, NC to Pastor Burrell to serve as its youngest Pastor in the One Hundred and Forty One year history of

the church. During the past six years, the church has seen tremendous growth, spiritually, numerically and financially. Property has been purchased, ministries have been added and the First Community Development Corp. has been established, to which Pastor Burrell serves as CEO/ED.

Pastor Burrell is affiliated with numerous civic organizations and currently serves as Chairman of the Young Pastors and ministers division of the General Baptist State Convention and a member of the General Board of the General Baptist State Convention. He is affiliated with the National Baptist Convention USA, INC. He is a gifted preacher, an accomplished musician/singer/songwriter and an up and coming author. He lives by the fact that if God be for us, who can be against us? And, no weapon that is formed against you shall prosper.

ADVERTISING RATES AND SPECIFICATIONS

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ALL ADS MUST BE PAID IN FULL BEFORE ADVERTISED.

Insertion orders are due by the 10th of the month prior to the month of publication. Ad materials should be emailed to Rev. Anthonette Wright, Advertising Editor, at nwrightgbsc@aol.com.

Poverty Rate Among African Americans Nearly Double that of Whites

From Press Release

Washington, DC – Annual data released today by the U.S Census Bureau indicates that 43.6 million Americans—one in seven people— now live in poverty. This is the largest number of people in poverty in the 51 years for which the estimates are available. The figures also show that African Americans experience poverty at a much higher rate than whites.

“It’s troubling that, in one of the world’s wealthiest nations, one in four African-American households struggle to provide for their families,” said Bishop Don DiXon Williams of Bread for the World’s Church Relations department. “The vast disproportion in poverty rates between African Americans and whites suggests that we must urge our

nation’s leaders to do more to end poverty and hunger.”

In 2009, the poverty rate for African Americans reached 25.8 percent—almost twice as high as that of the general population. One in three African-American children now lives in families that have trouble providing for them. Participation in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program or SNAP (formerly called food stamps) has hit record levels, with African-Americans accounting for 22.6 percent of the 40.5 million Americans who receive SNAP benefits each month. This figure is projected to rise in 2011.

“High rates of poverty and long-term unemployment among African Americans make legislation to extend certain provisions to low-income families extremely important,” said Bishop Williams. “This month, Congress can help by voting to extend tax benefits for low- and moderate-income households.”

SNAP, Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC), and the Child Tax Credit (CTC) have been in lifting people out of poverty and helping families respond to the recession. If SNAP benefits were accounted for in calculating the

poverty figures, 3.6 million people would be lifted out of poverty in 2009 (compared to 1.4 million in 2008). Similarly, accounting for payroll taxes and refundable tax credits, like the EITC and CTC, almost 3 million children would be lifted out of poverty.

Additional Census Bureau Report findings for 2009 include:

- In 2009, the poverty rate increased for non-Hispanic whites (9.4 percent in 2009, up from 8.6 percent in 2008), Asian-Americans (12.5 percent in 2009, up from 11.8 percent in 2008), and Hispanics (25.3 percent in 2009, up from 23.2 percent in 2008).
- For children younger than 18, the poverty rate increased from 19 percent in 2008 to 20.7 percent in 2009, bringing the number of children living in poverty to nearly 15.5 million, an increase of over 2.1 million children.

Bread for the World (www.bread.org) is a collective Christian voice urging our nation’s decision makers to end hunger at home and abroad.

The Baptist Informer

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“By the word of truth, by the power of God, by the armor of righteousness...”

(II Corinthians 6:7)

General Baptists Earn Judgeships

from Staff reports

Judge James A. Wynn Jr.

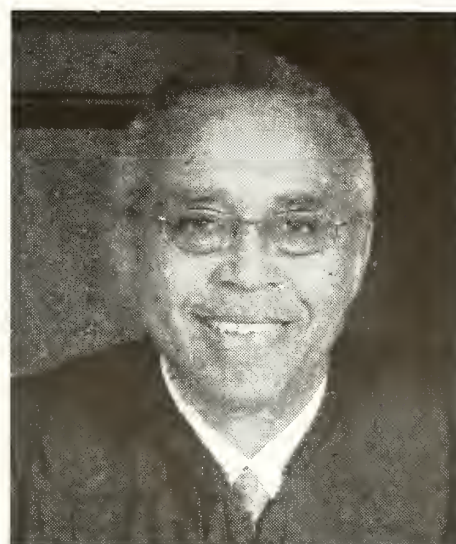


Judge James A. Wynn Jr. (a member of a General Baptist congregation) was confirmed to the U.S. 4th Circuit Court of Appeals, a position for which he was first nominated in the mid-1990s. Wynn formerly served on the N.C. Court of Appeals. He first was nominated for higher court under President Bill Clinton, but he never received a hearing in the U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee. He was nominated again last fall by President Barack Obama. He was sworn in on August 10, 2010 by North Carolina Supreme Court Justice Patricia Timmons-Goodson. (Justice Goodson is also a member of a General Baptist congregation, First Baptist Church in Fayetteville.)

Judge Wynn is a member of the Providence Missionary Baptist Church of Robersonville, NC where he has served as a deacon. He was born and reared in the Gold Point Community of Martin County. He is married to the former Jacqueline Dee Rollins and they have three sons: Javius, Conlan and Jaeander. He received his undergraduate degree (a BA in Journalism) from the University of Chapel Hill in Chapel Hill. His juris doctorate degree was from Marquette University Law School. He also has a Master of Laws degree from the University of Virginia School of Law.

He is a retired from the U. S. Navy Judge Advocate General Corps. He was on active duty from 1979-83.

Judge Cressie H. Thigpen



Judge Cressie H. Thigpen (a member of a General Baptist congregation) was appointed on August 23 to the North Carolina Court of Appeals by Gov. Bev Perdue. Judge Thigpen was appointed to the seat vacated by Judge James A. Wynn, Jr. who was confirmed to the U.S. 4th Circuit Court of Appeals. Judge Thigpen will appear on the November 2 ballot seeking an eight year term on the Court. Of thirteen persons seeking election, Judge Thigpen is the only African-American.

Judge Thigpen is a member of the Christian Faith Baptist Church of Raleigh, NC. He has served with distinction for two years as a Special Superior Court Judge. He has had an exemplary legal career, having been a founder of the firm of Thigpen Blue Stephens and Fellers. For thirty-five years, he litigated cases in both state and federal court. Judge Thigpen and his legal team took the historic Bazemore v. Friday case all the way to the U. S. Supreme Court where they won by a unanimous decision.

When a practicing attorney, Judge Thigpen has been the legal representative for the General Baptist State Convention. He previously served as legal counsel for Shaw University.

He was raised in North Carolina earning his undergraduate degree from North Carolina Central University and his law degree from Rutgers University. Judge Thigpen was married to Cynthia Cartwright Thigpen (deceased) for twenty-six years and is the proud father of two sons, Omar (33) and Daren (30). His 91 year old mother, Nettie Houston Thigpen, is his proudest supporter.

**To all who are loved by God and called to be saints: Grace and peace to you
from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ.**

Romans. 1:7

GBSC Annual Session Convenes October 25-28 in Charlotte

The 143rd Annual Session of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc. will convene October 25-28, 2010 at the Saint Paul Baptist Church (1401 Allen Street, Charlotte). As announced at the May Mid Year Session, the representation forms for the Annual Session are being released from the Baptist Headquarters. Please feel free to share it with the leadership of your congregation and with other churches in your association and in your area.

This year is an election year for the GBSC. Officers for the parent body will be elected in Charlotte. In order to vote in the

election, a person must be sent as a messenger from a Church. Each church is entitled to send a certain number of persons as messengers based on the size of the congregation. A chart showing number of messengers and fees is on the instructions side of the representation form.

A person who is not a messenger sent by a church for this Annual Session may register as an individual. However, persons who are not messengers and who register as individuals are not entitled to vote.

Churches are encouraged to pre-register its messengers. The deadline for pre-registration is Monday, September 27. Churches may mail or hand deliver completed representation forms and fees to the Baptist Headquarters. If you choose to mail your form, please mail it in adequate time so that it will be received at Baptist Headquarters on or before September 27. Any forms received at Baptist Headquarters on September 28 or later will be processed on site.

If you have questions about representation, pre-registration, or who may vote in the upcoming election, please feel free to call the Baptist Headquarters at 919-821-7466 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. See Representation Form on Page 8.

Hotel Info

Special hotel rates have been arranged with the Hilton Charlotte University Place Hotel (8629 J. M. Keynes Drive, Charlotte). The GBSC rate is \$99 per night for doubles and singles (tax rate is 16.25 percent). A limited number of rooms are available at this price so please make reservations immediately. The cutoff date is September 17. For reservations, call 704-547-7444.

Thank you for your support of missions through the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc.

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